



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.

09/600,279

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

Mark A. Prelas

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

Q43649

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/US99/00380

I.A. FILING DATE

01/15/1999

PRIORITY DATE

Sughrue Mion Zinn Macpeak & Seas
 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue N W
 Washington, DC 20037-3213

CONFIRMATION NO. 1508

371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER



OC000000010990462

Date Mailed: 10/07/2003

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

10/26/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and
 (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

10/26/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371
 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** *The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363).* Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 10/26/2001
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 10/26/2001
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 10/26/2001
- Oath or Declaration filed on 10/26/2001
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 10/26/2001

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

DEBORAH D WILLIAMS

Telephone: (703) 305-3744

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)